

10/520998  
JT12 C'd PCT/PTO 07 JAN 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: Not yet assigned  
Applicants: Alain GUILLARD, et al.  
Filed International: June 24, 2003  
US National: Herewith  
Title: Method for operating a production plant, and production plant  
TC/A.U: Unknown  
Examiner: Unknown  
Docket No.: Serie 5933  
Customer No.: 000040582

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that the following documents, which are attached, are being deposited, under 37 CFR 1.10, with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service as **Express Mail No. EV 505238334 US** in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on **January 7, 2005**.

1. A copy of International Publication WO 2004/007055;
2. English translation of International Application PCT/FR2003/01939;
3. Declaration and Power of Attorney;
4. Assignment and cover sheet;
5. Preliminary Amendment;
6. IDS and IDS Form 1449 with references;
7. Transmittal Under 35 USC 371 (PTO Form 1390) Fee Sheet (in duplicate);  
and
8. Postcard.

Respectfully submitted,



Diana Guzman

Date: January 7, 2005

Air Liquide  
2700 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1800  
Houston, Texas 77056  
(713) 624-8973

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER Serie 5933 U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5) Not yet assigned FD-15-20998
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/FR03/01939	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE June 24, 2003	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED July 9, 2002
TITLE OF INVENTION Method of operating a production plant, and production plant		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US L'Air Liquide, Société Anonyme à Directoire et Conseil de Surveillance pour l'Etude et l'Exploitation des Procédés Georges Claude		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31).</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</li> </ol> </li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> </ol> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</li> </ol> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</li> </ol> <p>Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.87 and 1.98.</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821- 1.825.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: International Search Report</li> </ol>		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.414 and 1.491-1.492. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 15 minutes to complete. Including gathering information, preparing, and submitting the completed form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER																															
Not yet assigned <b>104520998</b>		PCT/FR03/01939		Serie 5933																															
21. The following fees are submitted:																																			
<input type="checkbox"/> a) Basic national fee..... \$300.00 <input type="checkbox"/> b) Examination fee..... \$200.00 <input type="checkbox"/> c) Search fee..... \$500.00																																			
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = \$1000.00</b>																																			
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.																																			
Total Sheets	Extra sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number)		RATE																															
18 - 100 = 0	/50 = 0			x \$250.00	\$ 0																														
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).																																			
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>CLAIMS</th> <th>NUMBER FILED</th> <th>NUMBER EXTRA</th> <th>RATE</th> <th colspan="2">\$</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total claims</td> <td>12 - 20 = 0</td> <td></td> <td>x \$50.00</td> <td>\$ 0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independent claims</td> <td>2 - 3 = 0</td> <td></td> <td>x \$200.00</td> <td>\$ 0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)</td> <td colspan="2">+ \$360.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6" style="text-align: right;"><b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = \$ 0</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	\$		Total claims	12 - 20 = 0		x \$50.00	\$ 0		Independent claims	2 - 3 = 0		x \$200.00	\$ 0		MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)				+ \$360.00		<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = \$ 0</b>					
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	\$																															
Total claims	12 - 20 = 0		x \$50.00	\$ 0																															
Independent claims	2 - 3 = 0		x \$200.00	\$ 0																															
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)				+ \$360.00																															
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = \$ 0</b>																																			
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/4.																																			
<b>SUBTOTAL = \$ 1,000</b>																																			
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).																																			
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE = \$</b>																																			
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property																																			
<b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED = \$ 1,040</b>																																			
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="2"></td> <td>Amount to be refunded:</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"></td> <td>Amount to be charged:</td> <td>\$ 1,040.00</td> </tr> </table>								Amount to be refunded:	\$			Amount to be charged:	\$ 1,040.00																						
		Amount to be refunded:	\$																																
		Amount to be charged:	\$ 1,040.00																																
a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees is enclosed. b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <b>01-1375</b> in the amount of <b>\$ 1,040.00</b> to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <b>01-375</b> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.																																			
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.																																			
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:																																			
 Linda K. Russell Air Liquide 2700 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1800 Houston, Texas 77056																																			
SIGNATURE Linda K. Russell NAME 34,918 REGISTRATION NUMBER																																			